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Bingley Urban District Council.



# REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health  
(H. ANGUS, M.D.)

AND

Senior Sanitary Inspector  
(W. E. COOKE, M.I.H., M.S.I.A.)

*For the Year ending  
31st December, 1925,*

And Survey of the period 1921 to 1925.



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# Health Committee.

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Mr. W. RUSHTON, Chairman.

,, C. A. SMITH, J.P.

,, J. CLARKE.

,, H. LAYCOCK.

,, W. LONGBOTTOM.

,, R. MITCHELL.

,, T. SNOWDEN, J.P.

,, J. SUTCLIFFE.

,, J. WORSNOP.

,, W. M. WHITWHAM.

Mrs. ROBERTSHAW	}	For Maternity and
Mrs. MOULDEN		Child Welfare.

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H. ANGUS, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

W. E. COOKE, M.I.H., M.S.I.A.,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

H. TAYLOR, C.R.S.I.,

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

T. W. CRAGG,

Additional Sanitary Inspector (part-time).

Miss N. BARUGH, A.R.San.I.,

Health Visitor.

Miss C. O'CONNOR, C.M.B.,

Health Visitor (Wilsden and Harden).

Miss E. RUSHTON, C.M.B.,

Health Visitor (Cullingworth).

# BINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Bingley Urban  
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

The following report is prepared in accordance with instructions contained in a circular issued by the Ministry of Health, dated December 10th, 1925.

The Report for 1925 is intended to give a survey not only of the year under review but also of the progress in matters of Public Health during the period 1921 to 1925.

Unfortunately the year 1925 has not been a favourable one from the statistical point of view as will be seen from the following table in which figures from the Bingley District are compared with those of the country generally.

	Birth rate per 1,000 of population	Death rate per 1,000 of Population	Death rate of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 births
England and Wales ...	18.3	12.2	75
London ...	18.0	11.7	67
Large Towns (over 50,000) ...	18.8	12.2	79
Smaller Towns (20,000 to 50,000) ...	18.3	11.2	74
Bingley Urban District	14.9	14.7	100

With a comparatively small population such as ours (under 20,000) there is always the possibility that occasional or fortuitous causes may temporarily raise the death-rate without the necessary implication that the district is below the national standard of health. Our record for the years 1921, 1922, and 1923 was quite satisfactory as regards the general and infantile death-rate, although not so good in respect of the birth-rate, but during the last two years the general death-rate has been distinctly high and this year our infantile death-rate also shows an increase. In fact it is higher than it has been since 1909 and 33 per cent. above the rate for the whole country for 1925. Examination of the number of deaths from particular causes does not afford much explanation of the high general death-rate. Deaths from cancer and respiratory diseases generally are slightly above the average for the past five years. The number of deaths from the causes grouped under congenital debility is, however, over 50 per cent. above the five

years average, which accounts for the high infant mortality and of course to some extent also for the high general death-rate. I have made reference to this in the part of my report which deals with Vital Statistics, page 6.

In August, 1925, one of the Medical Officers of the Ministry of Health (Dr. Pearse) paid us a visit in order to investigate the Sanitary Administration of the District. As a result of his report the following letter was received from the Ministry :

Ministry of Health,

Whitehall, S.W.1.,

23rd September, 1925.

11a/853/1561.

Sir,

"I am directed by the Minister of Health to state that he has received a Report from Dr. Pearse, one of his Medical Officers, after a recent visit to Bingley Urban District.

Dr. Pearse reports very favourably upon the administration of the district, and I am to request that you will convey to the Council the Minister's appreciation of the good record of work performed by Officers of the Public Health Department."

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) H. KINGLEYSIDE.

The Clerk to the Urban District  
Council, Bingley.

In submitting this Report for your consideration I wish to take the opportunity of thanking the Clerk, Surveyor, and Members of the Sanitary Staff for their kind assistance in its compilation and to thank the voluntary workers in the Infant Welfare Departments for their services, and for their continued interest in the work,

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

H. ANGUS, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.



## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

### *Area and Population.*

The area of the Bingley Urban District comprises 11,675 acres. The population at the census of 1921 was 18,942, an increase of 183 on the census of 1911. The estimated population at the middle of 1925 was 19,380, an increase of 848 on the estimated population for 1920.

### *Physical Features and General Character of the District.*

The Urban District of Bingley contains a stretch of the valley of the River Aire about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles long, and the area drained by that part of the river. The course of the river is from North-West to South-East. On the North-East slope of the valley the land rises steeply to the tableland of Rum-bold's Moor, which has an elevation of 800 to 1,200 feet, the floor of the valley being 200 to 300 feet above sea level. On the South-West side the District consists chiefly of the drainage area of Harden Beck, a tributary of the Aire, flowing from South-West to North-East, the water-shed of which varies in height up to about a 1,000 feet. The geological stratum of the District is mill-stone grit, overlaid in places by the lower coal measures. The subsoil is chiefly loam, but much of the valley is occupied by beds of boulder clay and gravel, and on one of these beds the greater part of the town of Bingley is built. Besides the drainage areas mentioned the district includes, on the East, part of the valley of Gill Beck, a stream which joins the Aire about 3 miles below Bingley. Outside these valleys is an upland area partly arable and partly moorland. The greatest extent of the district is about 8 miles from North-East to South-West and about 3 miles from North-West to South-East.

At the census of 1921 the number of inhabited houses was 5,075, and the number of families or separate occupiers 4,900. The present rateable value is £108,868, and the sum represented by a penny rate £380.

### *Social Conditions.*

The District is an industrial one: the chief employment being the manufacture of woollen textiles. According to the census of 1921 of persons over twelve years of age, 15,642 in number, 33 per cent. were not employed as earners. Of those who were so employed 26 per cent. were engaged in textile work, i.e., 1,568 males, and 2,472 females. Of these, from the age of twelve to fourteen the number of each sex was about equal. Above 14 the females exceed the males. From 16 to 35 the number of women workers was about double the number of men, but after 35 the relative proportion of men increases until at 45 the number of men workers exceeds the number of women and over the age of 60 the male workers outnumber the women by more than two to one.

Six per cent. of the adult population are employed in the metal industries, four per cent. in commerce, from three to four per cent. each in agriculture, professions, and personal service, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in transport and communication. These occupations together claim nearly half the population over twelve years of age. None of them can be classed as unhealthy trades. The number of married women working in the woollen factories means that many children are deprived of their mothers' care during working hours, but I do not think that the infantile death rate is much affected by this fact. It is possible that children from one to three or four years old suffer more than infants, from want of maternal supervision.

#### *Vital Statistics.*

		M	F	Total	Birth Rate 14.9
Births	Legitimate	148	142	290	
	Illegitimate	1	8	9	
		149	150	299	

		M	F	Total	Death Rate 14.7
Deaths		132	154	286	

Number of women dying in or in consequence of child birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
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Deaths of Infants under 1 year :—

Legitimate	27	...	rate per 1,000 legitimate births	96
Illegitimate	3	...	rate per 1,000 illegitimate births	333
<hr/>				
Total	30	...	rate per 1,000 of all births	100
<hr/>				

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	4
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2)	...	...	...	1

Deaths from specified causes of disease are shown on p.9. By comparing these figures with the table of Births and Deaths since 1902 on p.7, it will be seen that the year 1925 is the worst in respect of vital statistics for some time. The birth rate has never been so low except during the years influenced by the war. The death-rate has not been so high since 1918, the year of the great influenza epidemic. The infantile death-rate has not been so high since 1909. These results are disappointing after all our efforts to improve health services, and after congratulating ourselves that during the last decade we had made decided progress we meet with a setback which cannot be accounted for by any serious epidemic. In fact, the only considerable cause of death which shows marked increase on the average for the previous five years is the class which includes congenital debility and premature birth.



TABLE SHOWING BIRTH AND DEATH-RATES SINCE 1902.

Year	Birth-rate			Death-rate			Infantile Death-rate	
1902 ...	23.4	per 1,000	...	12.3	per 1,000	...	95	per 1,000 Births
1903 ...	21.8	„	...	14.1	„	...	130	„ „
1904 ...	21.3	„	...	14.9	„	...	142	„ „
1905 ...	22.0	„	...	15.5	„	...	105	„ „
1906 ...	18.9	„	...	15.0	„	...	133	„ „
Average for five years	21.4	„	...	14.3	„	...	121	„ „
1907 ...	19.4	„	...	14.6	„	...	114	„ „
1908 ...	19.6	„	...	13.3	„	...	104	„ „
1909 ...	17.2	„	...	13.9	„	...	109	„ „
1910 ...	18.2	„	...	12.8	„	...	91	„ „
1911 ...	19.3	„	...	13.1	„	...	93	„ „
Average for five years	18.7	„	...	13.5	„	...	102	„ „
1912 ...	16.5	„	...	13.7	„	...	81	„ „
1913 ...	19.9	„	...	15.5	„	...	85	„ „
1914 ...	17.4	„	...	12.8	„	...	70	„ „
1915 ...	16.9	„	...	14.8	„	...	82	„ „
1916 ...	14.9	„	...	13.8	„	...	99	„ „
Average for five years	17.1	„	...	14.1	„	...	83	„ „
1917 ...	11.7	„	...	14.1	„	...	80	„ „
1918 ...	11.5	„	...	19.4	„	...	83	„ „
1919 ...	13.6	„	...	14.6	„	...	67	„ „
1920 ...	21.2	„	...	14.2	„	...	84	„ „
1921 ...	20.1	„	...	10.8	„	...	60	„ „
Average for five years	15.6	„	...	14.6	„	...	75	„ „
1922 ...	17.0	„	...	12.8	„	...	63	„ „
1923 ...	16.3	„	...	12.7	„	...	72	„ „
1924 ...	15.2	„	...	14.2	„	...	58	„ „
1925 ...	14.9	„	...	14.7	„	...	100	„ „

Of the thirty deaths of infants registered during the year no fewer than 21 were attributed to these causes. One factor which has increased the infantile death rate is the number of twin births which have occurred during the year. In place of an average of 4 twins born per annum, as was the case in the five preceding years, in 1925 eighteen twin births took place, and of these nine died within their first few weeks or months from congenital debility. The infantile mortality of twins is known to be high but a death rate of fifty per cent. is certainly unfortunate.

No. of Deaths of children from birth up to five years old :

Under 1 week	...	...	...	...	12
1 to 2 weeks	...	...	...	...	1
2 to 3 weeks	...	...	...	...	1
3 to 4 weeks	...	..	...	...	1
					<hr/>
Under 1 month	...	...	...	...	15
					<hr/>
1 to 2 months	...	...	...	...	4
2 to 3 months	...	...	...	...	4
3 to 4 months	...	...	...	...	0
4 to 5 months	...	...	...	...	1
5 to 6 months	...	...	...	...	1
6 to 7 months	...	...	...	...	3
7 to 8 months	...	...	...	...	1
8 to 9 months	...	...	...	...	0
9 to 10 months	...	...	...	...	1
10 to 11 months	...	...	...	...	0
11 to 12 months	...	...	...	...	0
					<hr/>
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	30
					<hr/>
1 to 2 years	...	...	...	...	4
2 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	3

*Poor Law Relief.*

The number of persons chargeable to the Guardians in the Bingley District is at present as follows :—

Men, 39 ; Women, 86 ; Children, 117 ; comprising 98 families.

*Causes of Death in 1925.*

Disease.						No. of Deaths.
Measles	...	..	...	...	...	4
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	8
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	20
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	...	29
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	18
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	38
Arterio-Sclerosis	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	25
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	10
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	4
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	8
Congenital Debility and Malformation,						
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	21
Deaths from Violence (other than suicide)	...	...	...	...	...	8
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	62
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total						286

## Welfare Centres or Clinics (Child Welfare and Maternity).

No. of Centre	Address	Accommodation	No. of Meetings during year	Total Attendance during year	Average Attendance at each Meeting	No. on Register	Remarks
1	Myrtle Grove Bingley.	Rooms provided by District Council.	50	1535	30	263	Weekly meetings, Consultations, advice on feeding and management by M. O. H. Treatment of minor ailments.
2	Royd House, Wilsden.	Rooms in Village Institute, belonging to District Council.	24	298	12	70	Fortnightly meetings, Consultations and short talks to mothers by M.O.H.
3	Baptist School-room, Cullingworth	Rooms hired for purpose by District Council.	25	342	14	55	Fortnightly meetings, Consultations and short talks to mothers by M.O.H.
4	Memorial Hall, Harden.	Rooms hired for purpose by District Council.	24	259	10	61	Fortnightly meetings, Consultations and short talks to mothers by M.O.H.
5	Myrtle Grove, Bingley.	Rooms provided by District Council.	4	13	3	9	Examination of and advice to expectant mothers. Lectures on maternity, etc., by Dr. D. Heynemann.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT.

### *Hospitals.*

The hospitals available for patients from the District which are provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council are as follows :—

(1). Tuberculosis—The various sanatoria provided by the West Riding County Council.

(2). Maternity—St. Luke's Hospital, Bradford.

(3). Children—Cottage Hospital, Bingley.

(4). Fever—Morton Banks Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases administered by Keighley and Bingley Joint Hospital Board.

(5). Small-pox—At Stanbury, administered by Keighley and Bingley Joint Hospital Board.

(6). Others—The only general hospital in the District is the Bingley Cottage Hospital situated about the centre of the area. It has accommodation for 12 men, 17 women, and 12 children, and is assisted financially by the District Council, which is represented on the Committee of Management.

There is no special institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children in the area.

### *Ambulance facilities.*

Motor Ambulances are provided by the Keighley and Bingley Joint Hospital Board for the conveyance of infectious cases to hospital. The District Council possesses a horse ambulance for non-infectious and accident cases, but a motor ambulance is a desideratum.

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (part-time).

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR (whole time), who is also Inspector under the Housing Acts, Canal Boats Acts, Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders and Superintendent of House Refuse Removal. Qualifications: Sanitary Inspector's Certificate and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute, Diploma of Incorporated Institute of Hygiene.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR (whole time). Qualifications: Sanitary Inspector's Certificate and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR (part-time) in Wilsden Village.

One half of the salaries of the above Officers are repaid by Exchequer grants.

HEALTH VISITORS. One trained Nurse, holding Health Visitor's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, working in Bingley, Cottingley, Crossflats, and Eldwick (also acting as School Nurse in Bingley and as School Nurse and Health Visitor in East and West Morton and Riddlesden under the West Riding County Council).

One trained Nurse, working in Wilsden and Harden (also acting as District Nurse and School Nurse in these villages and neighbourhood.

One trained Nurse holding C.M.B. Certificate working in Cullingworth and neighbourhood (also acting as District Nurse and Midwife and School Nurse in the same area).

A grant towards the salaries of the Health Visitors is made by the Ministry of Health with respect to their work in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare. The County Council also contribute to their salaries on account of School Nursing.

#### *Professional Nursing in the Home.*

There are three District Nurses, one working in Bingley and neighbourhood, one in Wilsden and Harden, and one in Cullingworth. The first is occupied solely in nursing in the home and is employed by the Bingley District Nursing Association. The other two act also as School Nurses and Health Visitors in their own Districts and are employed by the Harden and Wilsden District Nursing Association and by the Cullingworth District Nursing Association respectively.

The Nursing Associations are supported by voluntary contributions, assisted by grants from local charities, and where the Nurses act as Health Visitors and School Nurses these services are paid for by the District Council and the Education Authority.

No provision is made by the local Authority for nursing infectious cases at home.

#### *Midwives.*

Three trained Midwives reside in Bingley and practise in the town and vicinity. One trained and certified midwife lives at Harden and practises in the Wilsden and Harden Districts. The District Nurse at Cullingworth also holds the C.M.B. certificate. Assistance is given by the District Council towards the payment of midwives' fees in the case of poor persons.

#### LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

The following Local Acts and General Adoptive Acts are in force in the District :



### *Local Acts.*

Bingley Improvement Act, 1847.  
Bingley Extension and Improvement Act, 1867.  
Bingley Water and Improvement Act, 1881.  
Bingley Urban District Council Act, 1901.

### *Adopted Acts.*

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.  
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, Parts II., III., V.  
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907. Part II., Sections 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33. Part III., Sections 34, 35, 36, 37, 44, 45, 46, 47, 49, 50, and 51. Part IV., Sections 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66. Parts V. and VI. Part VII., Sections 81 and 86. Parts VIII. and X.  
Notification of Births Act, 1907.  
The Baths and Washhouses Acts.  
The Public Libraries Acts.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

### *Water.*

The water supply of the District is sufficient and of good quality. The local sources are springs and upland gathering grounds and these are supplemented by water drawn in bulk from the Bradford Corporation's System. Pollution is almost impossible and the water has no plumbo-solvent action. Since my last survey report Bradford water has been laid on to Harden Brow and Moor Edge and is available for the whole of Harden village. In 1925 the District Council purchased the Cottingley Water Company's undertaking and Bradford water is now also supplied to Cottingley.

### *Rivers and Streams.*

All gross pollution of streams has now been removed and constant supervision is exercised in order to obviate minor cases which occur from time to time.

### *Drainage and Sewerage.*

With the exception of Low Springs, Ryecroft and Harecrofts all the hamlets and villages in the District are connected to the main sewerage system conveying sewage to Dowley Gap for treatment. The drainage is on the whole satisfactory, although some of the older sewers require reconstruction. The sewage disposal works at Dowley Gap comprise storm tanks, motor driven screens, detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and land beds. The effluent is well up to the required standard.

### *Closet Accommodation.*

The following are the approximate numbers of each type of privy and closet in the district :—

Division.	Water Closets	Waste Water Closets.	Pail Closets.	Privy Middens Closets.	Open Middens	Covered Middens.	Dustbins.	Ash Places.
Bingley ..	2496	724	24	56	12	31	482	901
Cottingley .	175	16	29	45	2	26	74	26
Harden ..	198	6	23	20	7	12	140	8
Crossflatts	306	31	2	7	0	4	62	70
Mickle'waite	143	3	13	7	3	4	15	12
Cullingw'th	256	30	35	33	14	12	92	78
Gilstead ...	54	5	4	20	6	12	22	12
Eldwick ...	110	3	24	71	9	45	25	22
Wilsden ...	557	52	17	116	34	56	240	108
Totals ..	4295	870	171	375	87	202	1152	1237

The general policy as regards conversion is gradually to obtain the abolition of insanitary types of privy accommodation and to this end at present efforts are concentrated on the different villages in turn, owners of property with insanitary privies being pressed to adopt the water carriage system wherever that is possible. The following figures give the number of conversions during each of the last five years :

1921	...	...	...	...	42
1922	...	...	...	...	114
1923	...	...	...	...	124
1924	...	...	...	...	157
1925	...	...	...	...	118

Scavenging, Sanitary Inspection, Smoke Abatement, and the control of Premises and Occupations by Byelaws and Regulations are fully dealt with in the Sanitary Inspector's Report page 27.

### *Schools.*

I have no complaint to make regarding the sanitary condition or water-supply of schools in the District. Closure of schools in most cases, Infant Schools only, was advised by me on ten occasions during the year on account of the prevalence of measles and whooping cough.

## HOUSING.

### *General Housing Conditions.*

In my report for the year 1920, I stated that housing conditions had deteriorated during the years immediately previous to that date and that there was still not much improvement. During the five years which have since elapsed considerable progress has been made towards the attainment of a higher standard of housing. The large number of new dwellings erected, more systematic and more detailed inspection of houses, and persistent efforts to persuade owners of inferior property to carry out repairs, have all had a beneficial effect.

There is still a shortage of houses for the working classes but this has been to a great extent relieved, and if the provision of houses during 1926 continues at the rate expected the shortage should be practically overtaken by the end of the year. The number of new houses built in 1925 was 150 and the total erected during the five years 1921 to 1925 was 415. About 50 houses are in process of completion under the Council's schemes at Cullingworth, Harden and Crossflatts.

A gradual increase in population of the District has undoubtedly taken place during the last five years, judging from the number of newly occupied houses and the known influx of residents from other areas. This tendency will probably continue as the advantages of Bingley as a place of residence become recognised, but no great or rapid change in the population is expected in the near future.

### *Overcrowding.*

Twenty-three cases of overcrowding were dealt with during the year, of which ten were brought forward from the previous year. Eighteen of these were remedied and five unabated cases are carried forward to 1926.

The chief causes of overcrowding were the growing up of families in small houses and the taking in of lodgers without sufficient accommodation. Our procedure in these cases is to bring reasonable pressure to bear on those responsible by notices and visits. The names of those occupants who are desirous of securing one of the Council's houses are submitted to the Housing Sub-Committee and in a number of instances overcrowding has been directly abated by allotting a Council house to those concerned. The principal cases discovered during the year were in Bingley, Crossflatts and Cullingworth.

Amongst the worst examples were the following :—

1. Bedroom of 1,474 cubic feet capacity occupied by 6 male adults.
2. Bedroom of 755 cubic feet occupied by one male and one female adult and one child. Living room used as bedroom (520 cubic feet) occupied by two female adults.
3. Back-to-back house with two bedrooms occupied by 7 adults and four children.

In cases 1 and 2, notice was given to reduce number of lodgers, which was done. In case 3 a Council house was allotted.

### *Fitness of Houses.*

So far as I am able to judge the general standard of housing in the Bingley District is not below that of neighbouring industrial towns, but does not yet reach the standard laid down in the Manual of the Ministry of Health. The chief defects found are general want of repair, dampness, defective floors, leaking roofs, and windows which cannot be opened. These are more often due to faulty construction than to lack of supervision by owners, or waste or neglect on the part of the tenants. Remedial action is usually taken under the Public Health Acts in the case of minor details and under the Housing Acts where defects are more serious. See table pages 17 and 18.

As regards difficulties met with in remedying unfitness, I may here refer to the time and trouble involved in obtaining tenders for work to be done by contract, which are wasted if, as often happens, the owner himself ultimately decides to undertake the repairs.

The question of unfitness very seldom arises from an insufficient or defective water supply. A more common trouble is insufficient or insanitary privy accommodation. A large proportion of houses share the use of closets with others, an arrangement which is undesirable from all points of view. The storage of refuse is now permitted only by means of moveable dustbins, a method which has been adopted in all cases where possible. No complaints have been made regarding unhealthy areas and consequently no action has been taken.

The existing Byelaws work satisfactorily, but there is need for Byelaws dealing with Tents, Vans, and Sheds.

During the year four cellars occupied as dwellings on account of the shortage of houses were closed by Closing Orders.

## *Housing Statistics for the Year 1925.*

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) ... ..	150
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts	
(i) By the Local Authority ... ..	26
(ii) By other bodies or persons ... ..	102

### 1.—UNFIT DWELLINGHOUSES.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for Housing Defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	244
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	103
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	11
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	88

### 2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	66
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### 3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

#### A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ...	17
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	13
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	2



(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	0
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#### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	25
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of owner	0

#### C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14, and 15, of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	13
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	13
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	5
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	4



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### *Milk Supply.*

The milk supplied in the District whether produced within the area or imported has not up to the present been of the unvarying standard of purity which is desirable. Efforts have been made to improve this state of things by frequent and regular inspection of cowsheds, and advice to producers as to the introduction of better methods in milking. A number of cowsheds have been or are being reconstructed on approved plans. No licences were granted in the District for the sale of milk under special designations as defined in the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, nor were any such licences or registrations of retailers refused or revoked during 1925. The Sanitary Inspector has devoted much attention to the bacteriological examination of samples of milk and the results are summarised on page 38 of his report.

### *Meat.*

Meat Inspection and the administration of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924, are also dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector (page 34).

There is no Public Slaughterhouse in the District. The number of private slaughterhouses at the given dates is tabulated below.

				In 1920	In Jan., 1925.	In Dec., 1925.	
Registered	...	...	...	6	6	6	6
Licensed	...	...	...	6	7	8	8
Total	...	...	...	12	13	14	14

### *Other Foods.*

For details of unsound food and food inspection and of sanitary condition of bakehouses, see pages 34 to 38 of Sanitary Inspector's Report.

No cases of food poisoning came under notice in the District during the year.

### *Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.*

These are administered by the County Council. The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied me with the following statement of the sampling done in the Bingley area during the year 1925 by the Inspector :

				Genuine.	Adulterated.	Total.	
Milk	...	...	...	20	1	21	21
Drugs	...	...	...	3	—	3	3
Other Foods	...	...	...	13	—	13	13
							<hr/> 37

# PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during each of the last five years.

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever ... ..	21	36	44	11	38
Diphtheria ... ..	34	26	43	25	6
Enteric Fever ... ..	8	1	3	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	2	—	1
Pneumonia ... ..	7	63	39	52	103
Malaria ... ..	2	4	4	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	3	5	5	3
Erysipelas ... ..	3	11	20	7	18
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	3	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	1

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOT NOTIFIABLE.

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Measles ...	—	prevalent	prevalent	—	prevalent
Whooping Cough ...	—	prevalent	—	prevalent	prevalent

## NOTES ON NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING 1925 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

### *Smallpox.*

After having been absent from the District for many years smallpox gave rise to anxiety in November, 1925. In-





formation was received that a girl who had lived at a Hostel in Bingley for a week previous to November 11th, had returned to her home in the County of Durham and had there been admitted to hospital on November 12th, suffering from smallpox. Precautions were taken by the Sanitary Staff against the spread of the disease. All the inmates of the hostel, 30 in number, were vaccinated, as were also as many as were willing of those who had come in contact with the patient at work, i.e.: 20 out of about 40 contacts. The residents of the hostel were isolated for 20 days and other contacts were kept under medical observation for the same period. One hostel inmate who had been specially intimate with the patient developed a rash which could not be distinguished from true smallpox, and was isolated in the smallpox hospital at Stanbury. No other person was affected.

*Scarlet Fever* has occurred sporadically during the period under review, for the most part in a mild form, but with the occasional occurrence of cases of a more serious type. There were two fatal cases in 1923. Thirty-eight cases were notified in 1925, with no deaths.

*Diphtheria.* After a somewhat serious epidemic in 1920, the number of cases has gradually declined, with the exception of a smaller outbreak in 1923, and in 1925 only 6 cases were notified. Antitoxin is supplied by the Council in cases where it is applied for by practitioners but the more usual procedure is to send the patient immediately to hospital.

No use has been made of the Schick Test for liability to Diphtheria or of the Dick Test for liability to Scarlet Fever. The number of cases of these diseases being small and widely scattered, and no institutions being affected there has been no necessity for their employment or for artificial methods of immunization.

*Enteric Fever and Encephalitis Lethargica* have not occurred during the last two years and the cases of *Malaria*, which originated during the war have either been already notified or the infection is gradually dying out. At all events no cases have been notified since 1923.

*Pneumonia.* The large number of 103 cases of pneumonia was notified during 1925 with 10 deaths.

*Measles and Whooping Cough* were prevalent in 1922, and again in 1923-24 and in 1925. Intimation is received from the Education Authority when these and other non-notifiable infectious diseases occur amongst school children, but up to the present it has frequently happened that such notification

has not been sufficiently early to enable effective action to be taken. School closure or exclusion of pupils from school can be of use in preventing the spread of disease only if immediate notice of the first cases is sent to the Medical Officer.

*Influenza.* The following are the number of deaths registered from influenza during each of the five years 1921 to 1925.

1921	...	...	...	14	1924	...	...	...	24
1922	...	...	...	17	1925	...	...	...	8
1923	...	...	...	7					

*Bacteriological Examination* is undertaken by the West Riding Laboratory at Wakefield and frequent use is made of the facilities provided.

*Isolation.* Patients suffering from Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever, Encephalitis Lethargica, and Cerebro-spinal Meningitis are isolated at Morton Banks Hospital and cases of smallpox at Upper Heights Hospital, Stanbury.

*Disinfection* of houses is carried out by the Sanitary Staff in all cases of the above mentioned diseases, also in cases of respiratory tuberculosis after removal or death of the patient and in other cases where such action seems advisable or is desired by the occupants. Disinfection of bedding and clothing is done at Morton Banks Hospital.



# TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1925.

Age Periods.	CASES NOTIFIED.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
1	—	—	4	1	1	—	1	2
5	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
10	—	4	1	1	1	1	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
20	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	1
25	5	4	—	—	3	3	—	—
35	6	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
45	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
65	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Total ..	19	12	6	6	13	7	1	3
Total both sexes ...	31		12		20		4	

All cases of tuberculosis who died had been notified as suffering from tubercular disease.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS 1925. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

It has not been found necessary to take action under the above Regulations or Section.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The health of expectant and nursing mothers and of children under five years of age receives attention through the following agencies :—

1. A Health Visitor, who is also School Nurse, and who works in Bingley, Cottingley, Gilstead, Eldwick, Crossflatts, and Micklethwaite.
2. A Health Visitor, who is also School Nurse and District Nurse at Wilsden and Harden.
3. A Health Visitor, who is also School Nurse and District Nurse at Cullingworth.
4. Consultation centres or Baby Welcomes at Bingley weekly, and at Wilsden, Harden, and Cullingworth every fortnight. These are all attended by the Medical Officer, who advises in individual cases and gives short talks to mothers on the health of young children.
5. An ante-natal clinic held at Bingley once a month and conducted by Dr. Dorothy Heynemann, of Bradford.
6. An arrangement has been made with Bradford Corporation for the admission of cases to the Maternity Wards of St. Luke's Hospital when necessary, part of the cost being borne by the District Council.

Since 1920 the following extensions of Maternity and Child Welfare work have been made :—Cullingworth and Harden Child Welfare centres have been opened and a Health Visitor has been appointed at Cullingworth. The ante-natal clinic and the arrangements for admission to St. Luke's Hospital were instituted during 1925. At the centres, infant foods and a few simple medicines are sold at cost price. During the year fresh or dried milk was also supplied free of charge or at half cost to 47 families for varying periods in the case of expectant or nursing mothers, or of children under 3 years of age. The number of recipients is greater than last year but this is partly accounted for by distress caused by a strike in the textile trade in August, in addition to the continued prevalence of unemployment in the District.

One case of puerperal fever was notified during the year and was treated in St. Luke's Hospital, Bradford. One maternity case and one case of septic abortion were also admitted to the same institution. It is anticipated that the arrangement with Bradford Corporation for the treatment of such cases will be of considerable advantage, especially in cases of puerperal fever.

Three cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified, but none were severe and all were treated at home, with results as shown below.

## Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases.			Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness
Notified.	Treated.				
	At Home	InHospital			
3	3	0	3	0	0

Measles and Whooping Cough were prevalent during the year, but beyond closure of Infant Departments of Schools no organised method of coping with these diseases was adopted. One case of polio-myelitis was admitted to Bingley Cottage Hospital for treatment and is still under medical supervision.

## Visits paid to homes by Health Visitors.

	To children under 1 year.		To Children aged 1 to 5.	Total routine visits.	SPECIAL VISITS.				Total Visits
	First Visits.	Subseq'nt Visits.			Ante Natal.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles	Whoop- ing Cough.	
Bingley ...	168	966	759	1893	7	5	93	11	2009
Wilsden and Harden ...	55	321	192	568	12	—	—	56	636
Cullingworth	32	158	120	210	18	7	20	10	265
Totals ...	255	1445	1071	2671	37	12	113	77	2910

# Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Bingley Urban  
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Fourth Annual Report as your Senior Sanitary Inspector.

The year 1925 was again marked by steady and substantial progress in the sanitary administration of the district.

The abolition of over one hundred privy and pail closets has brought up the total number of conversions since 1921 to 555. 91 per cent. of the dwelling-houses in the district are therefore now on the water-carriage system. The remaining "convertible" privies will be dealt with as rapidly as possible during 1926. Strict supervision over food supplies was maintained, particularly meat and milk. An outstanding feature of the year was the Clean Milk Campaign. This marked a departure from accepted policy in that the traders concerned—farmers and milk dealers—were invited to co-operate in an endeavour to improve the quality of the article they sold, instead of being threatened with legal action if they did not do so. The results of this campaign certainly vindicated the change of policy. It would appear that the policy of educational co-operation might be worth trying with respect to other branches of public health activities, notably in regard to smoke abatement.

The gratifying progress made during recent years would not have been possible had it not been that the Department is now more adequately staffed. Otherwise, the time given to increasing, and opening up new lines of activity would have been largely absorbed in mere routine and detail work. I would here point out that the work in front of the Department shows no sign of diminution. On the contrary it steadily increases on account of constant new legislation. The new Public Health Act, the Meat Regulations, the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, have all added to the responsibilities and duties of the Department, while much time will have to be devoted, in the future, to Housing Inspection, Smoke Abatement, and the question of Refuse Collection.

In the following Report the main tabular statements follow this introduction, and comments on the various activities of the Department follow these statements.

TABLE No. 1.

## SANITARY INSPECTIONS MADE.

## DWELLINGHOUSES.

	Primary Inspections.	Re. inspections
Inspected and recorded under the provisions of the Consolidated Housing Acts 1925	103	434
Inspected under provisions of the Public Health Acts ... ..	141	106
Inspected under the provisions of the Rent Restrictions Acts ... ..	6	0
Inspected re suspected overcrowding cases	15	79
Inspected re verminous condition ... ..	3	15
Inspections of Cellar Dwellings ... ..	4	11
Inspected after the occurrence of Infectious Diseases ... ..	60	4
Disinfected ... ..	60	0
Library Books Disinfected ... ..	6	0
Bedding Disinfected ... ..	6 lots	0
Inspections of Water-Closets ... ..	275	123
Inspections of Privies and Pail-Closets ...	206	237
Inspections of Dry Ash Receptacles ...	170	144

## DRAINAGE.

Visits to Works in progress ... ..	85	0
New Drains approved after test ... ..	435	0
New Drains disapproved ... ..	62	0
Old Drains tested for defects ... ..	91	0
Old Drains found defective after test ...	60	0
Old Drains inspected ... ..	230	56

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number of visits ... ..	954	17
Carcases inspected ... ..	7200	0
Carcases inspected which were not slaughter- house killed ... ..	20	0
Farm premises visited re suspected Slaughtering ... ..	2	0

## FOOD SHOPS.

Number visited ... ..	43	0
Food Preparation Premises visited ...	21	0



## MARKETS.

Visits to Live Stock Auctions	...	...	65	0
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## COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Cowsheds Inspected	...	...	...	643	56
Dairies inspected	...	...	...	115	46

## BAKEHOUSES.

Number inspected	...	...	...	68	8
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## OFFENSIVE TRADE PREMISES.

Inspections of premises	...	...	...	35	4
Inspections of Fish Friers' premises	...	...	...	60	22

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Factories inspected re Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	...	...	8	16
Workshops Inspected		...	...	...	141	29

## WATER SUPPLY.

Visits to sources	...	...	...	...	9	8
Streams inspected re pollution	...	...	...	...	9	2

## EMISSION OF BLACK SMOKE.

Number of Factory Chimneys observed	...	...	...	140	0
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## MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS.

Schools re Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	...	15	6
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	9	0
Cinemas and Music Halls	...	...	...	7	2
Canal Boats	...	...	...	36	0
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	...	...	...	20	0
Piggeries	...	...	...	12	10
Ice Cream Manufactories	...	...	...	43	14
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	29	3
Districts	...	...	...	42	0
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	182	0
Nuisances arising from keeping of animals investigated	...	...	...	12	0
Inspections with Medical Officer of Health	...	...	...	6	0
Inspections with Surveyor	...	...	...	9	0
Interviews with owners, tenants, contractors, etc.	...	...	...	593	0

TABLE No. 2.

## SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

## DWELLINGHOUSES.

Unfit Houses Closed	...	...	...	...	...	11
Roofs Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	25
Spouting Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	17
Windows Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Windows made to Open	...	...	...	...	...	47
Broken Sash Cords Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	30
Defective Plaster Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	17
Fixtures Repaired and Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	30
Dampness Abated	...	...	...	...	...	9
Houses provided with Sinks	...	...	...	...	...	14
Sinks Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	11
Wash Boilers Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Floors Levelled or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	19
Verminous Houses Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty Houses Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Overcrowding Nuisances Abated	...	...	...	...	...	14
Baths Provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
Lavatory Basins Provided	...	...	...	...	...	5

## WATER-CLOSETS, ASHPITS, ETC.

Additional Water-closets Provided	...	...	...	...	9
Water-closets replacing Privy and Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	125
Defective Water-closets Repaired	...	...	...	...	30
Filthy Water-closets Cleansed after Notice	...	...	...	...	11
Waste Water Closets converted to Water-closets	...	...	...	...	2
Waste Water Closets Repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Privy midden closets abolished	...	...	...	...	102
Pail closets abolished	...	...	...	...	16
Open Middens abolished	...	...	...	...	29
Covered Middens abolished	...	...	...	...	26
Middens replaced by Dustbins	...	...	...	...	55
Ashpits and Ashplaces replaced by Dustbins	...	...	...	...	10
Houses provided with Dustbins	1...	...	...	...	0
Defective Dustbins Renewed	...	...	...	...	13
Defective Ashplaces Repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Nuisances from wet offensive matter in ash receptacles abated	...	...	...	...	13

## DRAINAGE.

Houses completely Redrained	...	...	...	...	21
Drains Repaired or Reconstructed	...	...	...	...	59
Old Drains abolished	...	...	...	...	6
Sink Waste Pipes disconnected	...	...	...	...	3
Rainwater Fall Pipes disconnected	...	...	...	...	2
Sewers Re-laid	...	...	...	...	14

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Limewashed after Notice	...	...	...	...	5
Offal removed after Notice	...	...	...	...	5
Re-drained and connected to sewer	...	...	...	...	1
Contraventions of Meat Regulations remedied	...	...	...	...	6

## COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Cleansed and Limewashed after notice	...	...	...	...	24
Cowshed Floors cleansed on request	...	...	...	...	10
Filthy Cows cleansed on request	...	...	...	...	185
Shed completely reconstructed	...	...	...	...	1
Sheds provided with additional light and ventilation	...	...	...	...	12
Floors re-laid	...	...	...	...	5
Redrained to Sewer	...	...	...	...	5
Gullies removed outside	...	...	...	...	4
Can stores or milk rooms provided	...	...	...	...	7
Cooler covers provided	...	...	...	...	4

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Cleansed and Limewashed after notice	...	...	...	...	4
Bone and Offal receptacles provided	...	...	...	...	5
Fish Fryers' premises cleansed	...	...	...	...	4
New Frying Ranges provided	...	...	...	...	2

## BAKEHOUSES.

Cleansed and Limewashed after notice	...	...	...	...	4
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## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Sanitary Conveniences provided with intervening ventilated spaces	...	...	...	...	20
W.C.'s. cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	12
W.C. approaches screened	...	...	...	...	15
Additional W.C. provided	...	...	...	...	1
Workshops cleansed and limewashed after notice	...	...	...	...	22

## WATER SUPPLY.

Drains entering streams diverted to sewers and tanks	...	...	...	...	3
Houses provided with adequate water supply	...	...	...	...	20
Water services repaired	...	...	...	...	5

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Canal Boat rendered weatherproof	...	...	...	...	1
Piggery re-drained	...	...	...	...	1
Piggery removed from near house	...	...	...	...	1
Ice Cream Manufactories closed	...	...	...	...	7
Nuisances from fumes or dust abated	...	...	...	...	3
Nuisances from animal keeping abated	...	...	...	...	3
Nuisances from deposit of slops abated	...	...	...	...	4
Grease Extractor Plant closed	...	...	...	...	1

## *Housing Inspection.*

One hundred and three houses were inspected under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1925, and 141 under the Public Health Acts.

The inspections under the Housing Act were of a detailed nature and the information obtained was recorded on cards—one card for each dwelling-house inspected. Most of the houses inspected required repairs to render them in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation and difficulty was experienced in many cases in getting these repairs carried out. The rather cumbersome method of procedure whereby the Local Authority carries out the work in default of the owner caused extra work preparing specifications, inviting tenders and meeting contractors. Not infrequently after doing this the owner stepped in and commenced the work on receiving intimation that the Council had decided to accept a tender for execution of the repairs.

Sixty per cent. of the houses inspected under the Housing Act were of the back-to-back type. Only 20 per cent. had satisfactory accommodation for food storage, while 62 per cent. were without reasonable equipment for clothes washing. In 32 per cent. of the houses the sleeping rooms were without a separate approach.

During the past five years 270 houses have been visited under the provision of the Housing Acts and it will no doubt be possible to devote even more time in future to this valuable work as privy conversion schemes are completed.

Three cases of verminous houses were dealt with during 1925. Each of these houses contained match-board partitions in the bedrooms and bugs accumulated in the grooves in large numbers. It is obvious that the use of wooden partitions in dwellinghouses is a mistake.

Thirteen closing orders with respect to houses totally unfit for habitation were made during 1925. Four of these were in respect of cellars occupied as separate dwellings. Eleven houses were vacated as a result of the closing orders, legal proceedings being necessary in one case only, when an ejectment order was made by the magistrates. Five dwellinghouses have since been demolished.

While many distressing cases of overcrowding came to light during the year it was obvious that some people will deliberately overcrowd if allowed to do so in order to augment their income. Such cases deserve strong pressure to abate the nuisance.

## *Disinfection Work.*

Sixty dwelling-houses were disinfected after the occurrence therein of infectious disease, also a number of library books and parcels of clothing and bedding. 550 bottles of disinfectant preparation were supplied gratis to the elementary schools and for use in cases of tuberculosis or houses where illness of an infectious nature had occurred.

### *Closet Accommodation.*

The work in connection with privy conversion has again occupied a considerable amount of time, but gratifying progress has been made. One hundred and eighteen privy and pail closets were replaced by 125 water-closets, making a total of 555 privies and pails abolished since 1921.

This marked sanitary improvement can hardly fail to benefit eventually the health of the inhabitants of the district. The most pleasing feature of the privy conversion campaign has been the general readiness of the property-owners to fall in with the requests of the Council when approached in a courteous way. Only three cases of legal proceedings have been necessary during the past five years, one of which was during 1925. In each case the magistrates made an order for abatement of the nuisance.

Despite the rural character of the area the Bingley district, with regard to the water carriage system, compares very favourably with other urban authorities in the West Riding.

The few remaining privies are now being converted as rapidly as possible, where sewers and water supplies are available.

### *Drainage.*

All new drainage work, whether in connection with new houses or existing buildings, is inspected by the staff of the Health Department, the only exception being new sewers, and drains in connection with the Council's housing schemes, these being dealt with by the Surveyor's Department.

During the year 497 drains were inspected and tested by the Health Department of which 435 or 86 per cent. were passed as satisfactory.

230 old drains were inspected, chiefly under the provisions of Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1875, most of which were obviously defective, being constructed of rubble, or stoneware pipes with leaking clay joints. In any case of doubt a test was applied. Two-thirds of those tested proved defective. Most of this work took place in the village of Wilsden, in consequence of bad smells which occurred in various houses. In many cases old disused drains were found underneath the cellar floors still connected to the sewers and allowing sewer gas to escape into the houses. The sewer gas was rendered particularly pungent owing to the presence of various trade effluents in the sewers. In all cases defective drains were either abolished or reconstructed and this usually resulted in freedom from further smells. If any residents in the village still experience bad odours in their houses they should report the matter to the Health Department, and the information will be treated confidentially and full investigation made.



## *Meat and Food Inspection.*

Particular attention was devoted to this important branch of Public Health work. Practically all carcasses are inspected at the time of slaughter or within a short time afterwards. The local butchers usually kill at regular times and, if compelled to kill at an unusual time, give notice to the Department. This practice obtained even before the provisions as regards notification of slaughter under the Meat Regulations came into force. Over seven thousand carcasses were inspected during 1925 and this systematic inspection necessitated a considerable amount of work in evenings, and during week-ends and holidays.

Speaking generally, the local butchers provide a very excellent quality of meat and afford every facility for its inspection. The amount of diseased meat shows a slight reduction on the previous year, the total being 4,483 lbs. as against 4,839 lbs. during 1924. Over two-thirds of the meat (3,101 lbs.) was condemned on account of Tuberculosis.

Despite the fact that most of the cattle killed were prime young beasts 6.2 per cent. were found to have tuberculosis in some degree, most frequently in the form of primary lesions in the lungs.

2 per cent. of the pigs killed exhibited tubercular lesions but these were chiefly confined to the heads, lungs and livers.

The following two tables give details of meat condemned during 1925.

### PARTICULARS OF DISEASED AND UNSOUND MEAT CONDEMNED DURING 1925.

TABLE No. 3.

#### *Meat affected with Tuberculosis.*

CATTLE.	PIGS.
3 whole carcasses.	1 whole carcase.
3 portions of carcasses.	14 heads.
8 heads.	12 pairs of lungs.
91 pairs lungs.	13 livers.
12 livers.	6 mesenteries.
5 stomachs.	3 spleens.
2 intestines.	
10 mesenteries.	
1 uterus.	
6 spleens.	
1 udder.	



105 cattle or 6.2 per cent. were affected in some degree by Tuberculosis.

Total weight of bovine meat condemned on account of Tuberculosis—2,697 lbs.

22 pigs or 2 per cent. were affected in some degree by Tuberculosis.

Total weight of pig meat condemned on account of Tuberculosis—404 lbs.

TABLE No. 4.

*Meat affected by Diseases other than Tuberculosis.*

CATTLE.

<i>Abscesses</i>	...	...	...	Lungs, 2 pairs. Livers, 6. Spleens, 1.
<i>Capillary Angiomatosis</i>	...	...	...	Livers, 1.
<i>Cirrhosis</i>	...	...	...	Livers, 33.
<i>Decomposition</i>	...	...	...	Portions of carcasses, 2.
<i>Distomatosis</i>	...	...	...	Livers, 22.
<i>Hydatid Cysts</i>	...	...	...	Lungs, 9 pairs.
<i>Hæmorrhagia</i>	...	...	...	Mesenteries, 2.
<i>Necrosis</i>	...	...	...	Livers, 1.

CALVES.

<i>Immaturity</i>	...	...	...	Whole carcase, 1.
<i>Pneumonia</i>	...	...	...	Whole carcase, 1.

PIGS.

<i>Acute Inflammation</i>	...	...	...	Lungs, 1 pair. Livers, 1.
<i>Cirrhosis</i>	...	...	...	Livers, 4.
<i>Fatty Degeneration</i>	...	...	...	Livers, 2.
<i>Hæmorrhagia</i>	...	...	...	Carcase, 1.
<i>Hydatid Cysts</i>	...	...	...	Lungs, 1 pair. Livers, 1.
<i>Acute Pneumonia</i>	...	...	...	Lungs, 4 pairs. Livers, 1. Hearts, 3.

SHEEP.

<i>Acute Inflammatory Conditions</i>	...	...	...	Whole carcasses, 2. Lungs, 1 pair. Livers, 1. Hearts, 1.
<i>Cirrhosis</i>	...	...	...	Livers, 4.
<i>Cystic Disease</i>	...	...	...	Livers, 1.
<i>Pneumonia</i>	...	...	...	Whole carcasses, 2.

Total Weight ... 1382 lbs.

Condemned meat is usually disposed of by burning or burying in soil after treatment with chloride of lime.

No application was made by the Council for permission to institute a system of Meat Marking as it would be impossible for your Inspector to be present when every carcass was opened owing to the number of private slaughterhouses which are widely scattered.

No meat is sold from stalls in the district. As regards the storage and transport of meat the local butchers have been requested to take any necessary steps to secure the same from contamination. In a few cases where the required precautions were not taken a written notice was served on the offenders.

It is to be regretted that no further progress was made during the year in the direction of providing a Public Abattoir. Such an institution is very necessary for Bingley from the humane as well as the hygienic point of view. A modern abattoir is designed to secure an euthanasia as far as possible for the animals slaughtered. They are protected to a great extent against accidents, and they do not witness the fate of their fellows. Some of our existing slaughterhouses are unsuitable places for the preparation of food. Many are cramped and render the work of meat inspection a difficult matter.

It is to be hoped that the Council will favourably consider the question of the provision of a Public Abattoir so soon as financial obligations permit.

In connection with food generally, various precautionary measures are imposed by the Public Health Department. They chiefly relate to the following.

#### *Food Preparation Places.*

This term covers premises where such articles as meat pies, sausages, puddings, etc. are prepared. Such places are kept under observation to ensure thorough cleanliness in connection with the foods made.

#### *Bakehouses.*

There are thirty-seven bakehouses in the district—a large number—considering the great amount of bread which is baked at home. There are only six underground bakehouses on the register. The majority of the premises are kept in a very clean condition. Seventy-six visits to Bakehouses were made during 1925.

#### *Ice-Cream Manufactories.*

Persons dealing in or manufacturing ice-cream are kept under supervision so far as possible, but the department is considerably hampered by the lack of legal authority. Advantage is taken of the provision of a local Act which prohibits

the manufacture of ice-cream in cellars or rooms containing drain inlets and prohibits any act which may expose the commodity to infection or contamination, but, in my opinion this power requires strengthening so that no person may commence making or dealing in ice-cream without first having obtained a licence to do so from the local authority. Owing to the lack of such power at present any person may commence an ice-cream business in possibly quite unsuitable premises and carry on until discovered by the Inspector.

### *Fish Frying.*

This business has been scheduled as an offensive trade by your authority. At the end of the year there were twenty-three fish friers on the Register. No new businesses were established during 1925. Two applications to establish new businesses were refused by the Council. Eighty-two visits were paid to the fish friers premises. The general standard of cleanliness is good. Many premises have been structurally improved during recent years, two being entirely rebuilt. During 1925 two new frying ranges of the latest pattern were installed which have the effect of considerably minimising odours during the frying process.

### *Offensive Trades.*

The following table gives the list of trades which have been scheduled by the Council as offensive and the number of businesses in the district at the end of 1925.

Blood Boiling ... ..	0	Maggot Breeding ... ..	0
Bone Boiling ... ..	0	Rag, Bone, and Fat	
Fish Frying ... ..	23	Dealing ... ..	6
Fellmongering ... ..	1	Soap Boiling ... ..	1
Grease and Oil Dis-		Tallow Melting ... ..	0
tilling ... ..	0	Tanning ... ..	3
Gut Scraping ... ..	2	Tripe Boiling ... ..	3

In all, one hundred and twenty-one inspections of such premises were made and any minor defects found were attended to by the owner immediately.

### *Milk Supply.*

Milk production is a large and important industry in your area. Owing to the rural character of the district and the proximity of large centres of population most of the local farmers keep as many milch cattle as their pastures will support. The aggregate number of milk producers is 110 while milch cattle number approximately 1,578. These are housed in 209 cowsheds.

Most of the farms are situated in remote parts of the district and it will be recognised that anything like efficient supervision of them must occupy considerable time.

Six hundred and ninty-nine inspections of cowsheds were made—an average of 3.3 visits per shed. These visits were for the purpose of noting the general cleanliness or otherwise of the sheds and cattle therein and the health of the animals.

Limewashing is now carried out twice a year. The question of improved methods in the production and handling of milk was made the subject of a campaign during the year. As a special report has been issued on this campaign it is not proposed to discuss it in detail here. Briefly, the scheme consisted of an endeavour to secure the co-operation of those engaged in the milk trade—producers and distributors alike—in improving the cleanliness of the local milk supply. The campaign commenced with the systematic sampling of all milk produced in the area which was examined for the presence of dung organisms and a general bacterial count. After the samples were taken each farmer was visited and individually advised as to the methods necessary to secure clean milk. These talks were followed up by lantern lectures in the various villages. Further sampling was carried out after these instructions had been given and the later samples showed a marked improvement in cleanliness over the first batch. It should be remarked that no sample was examined until approximately 24 hours old and that during this time the samples were maintained at room temperature (57° to 61°). The lower bacterial count of the second batch is partially due to the generally colder weather which prevailed when these samples were taken, but largely the better result was due to more care being exercised at the farm.

TABLE No. 5.

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

	Primary Samples.	Repeat Samples.
Average bacterial content per c.c. ...	1,044,238	147,947
Average B. Coli content ... ..	1/1000 c.c.	1/100 c.c.
Average keeping quality ... ..	37 hours.	70 hours.

No sample included in the above statement was of Graded Milk.

In view of this great improvement in the cleanliness of the local milk supply the Health Committee decided to hold a "Clean Milk Week," which took place early in 1926. During this publicity week the public were told about the food value of milk and urged to increase their consumption. Instructions were also given on the proper care of milk in the home. In all about 2,500 persons attended the various lectures during the week.

Very valuable help was rendered to the Council during the campaign by the Leeds University, who undertook the examination of samples at a minimum fee and also supplied a lecturer who paid many visits to the district. The lectures during the clean milk week were given by members of the staff of the National Milk Publicity Council who were also most helpful.



With regard to the structural condition of the cowsheds in the area many require complete reconstruction. This necessary work is proceeding but slowly owing to the limited power possessed by your Authority. Most of the improvements already effected have been secured by persuasion and informal action.

Since the introduction of the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, any animals which appeared to be affected by Tuberculosis when inspected in the cowsheds have been reported to the Veterinary Inspector under the Order, H. M. Holland, Esq., F.R.C.V.S. Mr. Holland informs me that six bovines from the Bingley area were dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order during 1925. In only one of these cases, however, was the udder tissue diseased. In two cases there was commencing infection of the supra-mammary lymphatic gland. The remaining cases were found to be localised Tuberculosis.

Previous to the Order twelve cows suffering from tuberculosis of the udder were eliminated from the herds by informal action and recourse to the powers given by the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order.

### *Distribution of Milk.*

Milk purveyors number 44 and these, generally speaking, deliver milk straight from the producer to the consumer. The premises of the milk purveyors are inspected periodically. The majority are maintained in a perfectly satisfactory condition.

### *Factories and Workshops.*

The sanitary accommodation of factories is periodically inspected by H.M. Factory Inspector, who refers to the Local Authority such defects or nuisances as may be dealt with by them under the Public Health Acts.

Four such communications were received from the Inspector during the year. These related to the ventilation, screening, etc., of sanitary conveniences in factories.

Visits were made to the premises forthwith and the necessary action taken to secure improvements. Details of these improvements are given on page 31.

There are 118 workshops on the Register, the local Authority being responsible for their inspection.

The following table gives a list of trades carried on in the workshops.

TABLE No. 6.

## WORKSHOP TRADES.

Baking	...	...	...	37	Plumbing	...	...	7
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	3	Saddlery	...	...	3
Boot and Shoe					Tailoring	...	...	15
Repairing			...	21	Joinery	...	...	3
Dressmaking	...	...	...	4	Miscellaneous	...	...	18
Millinery	...	...	...	7				
Total				...	118.			

Particulars of the sanitary condition of these workshops are recorded and kept up-to-date by means of a card-index system.

One hundred and ninety-four inspections were made of factories and workshops during the year.

The most frequent cause of complaint was in respect of non limewashing and filthy condition of the sanitary conveniences. These matters were attend to by the occupiers, on request.

*Canal Boats.*

Fifteen visits were made to the portion of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal which is within the boundaries of the Bingley Urban District.

Thirty-six canal boats were inspected. Only six of these boats carried females. On two occasions children were found on board, but it was stated that they were making a holiday trip only.

All the boats, with one exception were found clean, in good repair and in a generally satisfactory condition.

The following contravention was discovered and steps were taken to remedy same : Cabin not weatherproof.

No case of infectious disease occurred to our knowledge on any of the boats while passing through the district.

*Smoke Abatement.*

One hundred and forty observations of factory chimneys were made during the year. These observations are usually of at least 30 minutes duration. When the observation showed that an excessive amount of smoke was being emitted the matter was taken up with the management who were requested to take the necessary steps to abate the nuisance. The average emission showed a reduction on the previous year. In fact, each year since 1922, has shown a gratifying reduction in the amount of smoke emitted. The following table gives the details :



TABLE No. 7.  
SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

Year.			Number of Observations taken.		Average emission of smoke during each observation.	Percentage of chimneys which emitted smoke in excessive quantities	
1921	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
1922	...	...	61	...	2.05 minutes	...	33
1923	...	...	99	...	1.45 minutes	...	23
1924	...	...	110	...	.91 minutes	...	13
1925	...	...	140	...	.67 minutes	...	10

It was evident during the year that improper stoking was largely responsible for excessive smoke emission. It is somewhat surprising that many manufacturers when they see dense black smoke issuing from their mill chimneys do not realise that fuel is being quite needlessly wasted.

I am of opinion that stoking should now be regarded as more of a skilled trade than hitherto. The day has gone when the essential qualities of a stoker were that he must be "strong in the arm and thick in the head." No man should be permitted to be in charge of apparatus capable of fouling the atmosphere with smoke, unless he has received instruction in the principles of combustion and the proper working of boiler furnaces.

I trust that it may be possible eventually for the Public Health Committee to co-operate with the manufacturers with a view to smoke abatement to the mutual benefit of both parties.

#### MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS.

##### *Sanitary Accommodation for Schools.*

This is inspected periodically. The accommodation is generally maintained in a cleanly condition.

##### *Common Lodging House.*

There is only one Common Lodging House in the District. This was maintained in a satisfactory condition during the year.

##### *Cinemas and Music Halls.*

These were inspected at intervals and gave little cause for complaint.

##### *Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.*

Work under this heading consists in visiting the temporary sheds and and bungalows used as week-end residences. These are confined to remote areas. Visits are also made to the caravans which visit Bingley and the villages during holidays to ascertain whether the occupants come from areas where small-pox or other infectious disease is prevalent and whether they themselves are free from disease.

It is hoped that the Council will shortly make Byelaws to deal with tents, vans, sheds, and similar structures.

## Notices.

Two kinds of Notice are served by this Department requiring the execution of work or abatement of Nuisances. The first is the Preliminary Notice, which is sent as an ordinary letter, and the second is the Statutory or Legal Notice which is not served until it is evident that the first communication is being ignored.

Five hundred and fifty-seven Preliminary and eighty Statutory Notices were issued during the year, making a total of 637. Of these 457 had been complied with by the end of the year.

## HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

### REFUSE COLLECTION.

The staff employed in refuse collection is as follows :—

Bingley and District ...	1 30-cwt. Motor Lorry and 4 men. Horse, cart and 2 men.
Wilsden ...	Horse, cart and 2 men (part time).
Cullingsworth ...	Horse, cart and 2 men (part time).

The continual increase of new houses on the outskirts of Bingley makes a growing demand on the refuse collection staff. Most of these new houses are well set back from the road and necessitate comparatively long “carries” by the men.

It cannot be said that the policy of privy conversion has reduced the work to any appreciable degree for there is an undoubted tendency to put more rubbish into the dustbin which is emptied weekly whether full or not, than into the midden which was not emptied at such frequent intervals.

The question of the destruction of combustible refuse in the home is one which deserves the serious consideration of the Council. Quite one third of the refuse collected in the district consists of cinders, paper, potato peelings, vegetable leaves, etc. No valid excuse can be offered for the presence of these articles in the town's refuse in the majority of cases, excepting during the periods when fires are not burning regularly. Most of the houses in the district have fireplaces which are suitable for the destruction of such refuse. I estimate that if each householder in the area would burn only one pound of refuse per day the saving to the rates would amount to over £300 per year. I feel sure that some good scheme of propaganda in regard to this matter would be a business proposition.

Collection routes have been gradually re-organised so as to utilise horse transport on the short hauls and motor transport on the long ones. There is room for further improvement in the department by the elimination if possible

of "waiting time" on the part of the collectors when the vehicles are away at the tip, and this problem is to receive the attention of your Committee during the coming year.

Another much needed improvement which deserves early attention is that of the standardisation of ashes receptacles. In many streets at present there may be three or four types of receptacles. There may be dustbins, ashes places opening direct on to back streets, ashpits in courts and back-yards, accessible only by means of wheelbarrows, and possibly some pail-closets. Each of these types demands different methods and apparatus for emptying. The ideal system would be to have one standard type of dustbin for each house in the district to be emptied weekly, coupled with careful effort on the part of the general public to prevent unnecessary refuse being placed in such receptacles.

The following statistics may be of interest :—

TABLE No. 8.

*Collection of House Refuse.*

Year ending March 31st.	Total weight collected.	Weight per house.	Cost per house.	Cost per head.	Cost per year of collection.
1924.	4,827 tons.	18½cwts.	7/7	2/1	£2,007
1925.	4,891 tons.	18 cwts.	7/6	2/1	£2,049

It is worthy of note that a costings system is being inaugurated as from April 1st, 1926.

TABLE No. 9.

*Loads removed during the year ending March 31st, 1926.*

Loads removed by motor ...	...	...	...	...	1271
„ „ Bingley Team	...	...	...	...	938
„ „ Wilsden Team	...	...	...	...	1356
„ „ Cullingworth Team	...	...	...	...	1505
„ „ Hired Carts	...	...	...	...	459

*Refuse Disposal.*

Refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping. There are tips in connection with each centre of population and these are kept free from nuisance. The tips which are at all near to dwelling-houses are covered with soil and clean refuse, and it is gratifying to note that no complaints were received with respect to any of the tips during the year. Wherever possible on completing a portion of a tip, grass is sown and shrubs planted on same.

This method of disposal by means of controlled tipping is the best and most economical for such a scattered district, and land which would be otherwise of little value is being gradually reclaimed.

None of the tips are on fire, and they are all very carefully watched in this respect.

The gross cost of disposal was £326. Receipts from tipping charges, etc., amounted to £47, leaving a net cost of £279, or 1/2d. per ton tipped.

### *Conclusion.*

In concluding this Report I would like to express my sincere appreciation of the support I have received during the year from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee. I have to thank the Clerk, Medical Officer of Health and Surveyor and other officials for their unfailing help and courtesy. I also wish to express my appreciation of the loyal services of my colleague Mr. Taylor, and Clerk, Mr. Snowden, both of whom have done valuable work, often in addition to their regular hours of duty.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. E. COOKE.



